

Griffith Gives Reason for Belief That Johnson Will Pitch for Nationals

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GRIFFITH EXPECTS TO KEEP JOHNSON

Thinks Pitcher Will Report
When Contract Is Proved
to Be Binding.

GAVE MITCHELL AWAY
TO AVOID SALARY CUT

Sees Better Chance for Nationals
Now That Mack's Team
Is Weakened.

BY J. ED GRILLO.

Clark Griffith's claim that Walter Johnson will be pitching for the Nationals next spring is based on his belief that Johnson was lured into believing his contract with the Washington club is not binding.

"When I hear that the courts will stop him from pitching anywhere but with my club he will come back into the fold," said Griffith this morning. "I am confident that Walter is honest. He has been told by some of the Federal league lawyers that the option clause in his contract will not hold him here, and he has taken a chance. I don't believe that he has his salary guaranteed, and when he finds he cannot play with the Feds he will report here to live up to his agreement. That is just what he will do. I am convinced that if Walter knew that his contract with us is binding he would live up to it."

Griffith is a believer in good treatment for ball players who are fair in their dealings. That is why he gave Mike Mitchell to the New York club. "I could have sold Mike to some minor league club for a good profit, but to send him there meant to cut his salary in half, and he is too good a fellow to deserve such treatment," said Griffith. "As matters now stand the New York club will take over his contract with us and I am sure he will play good ball for that team for a couple of years at least."

"Mitchell has been an ideal ball player. He is clean cut in all his dealings, always has been loyal and for that reason deserves every consideration."

Griffith does not expect to land a seasoned pitcher as a result of his visit to the meeting in New York. He admits that he approached the New York officials with reference to considering a proposition for Ray Caldwell, but that he was informed that Caldwell already had promised to report to the club in the spring. Caldwell's contract is just the same as Johnson's and he will live up to it. Naturally the New York club does not want to part with him if he will report to it, and there was no chance for Griffith to land the Yankee star.

He felt out other clubs about getting a pitcher, but there was nothing doing.

The Nationals' manager contends that his team's chances next season will be better than ever before, but he goes on the theory that Walter Johnson will be back here. He contends that the only reason he did not win pennants in 1912 and 1913 was because his team could not beat the Athletics, but he sees hopes of that now that Mack has rid his team of Collins, Plank and Bender.

"If we have Walter back with us, and I think that we will, we'll have a better chance of being in the flag race next season than ever before," said Griffith. "The team that we had the only team that stopped us every year during the past three and Mack will not have that kind of a team next season, so that gives us a chance, for I expect to be a whole lot stronger in the next campaign than I was in the last."

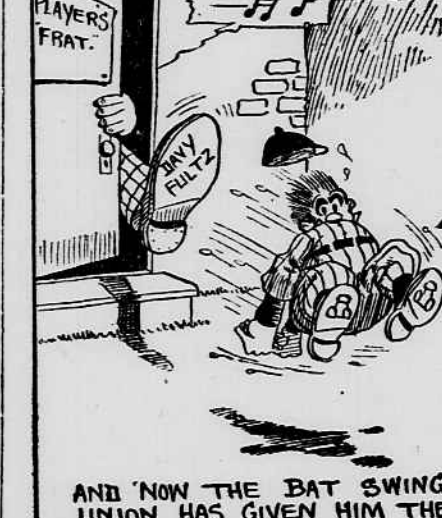
WAS IT A CASE OF MISUNDERSTANDING WHEN THE FEDS SIGNED MARQUARD?

I DIDN'T THINK THIS WAS SUCH A TOUGH OLD CHAIN!

LOOKS LIKE THE RUBI IS PRETTY WELL BALLED UP!

OUT TH' WINDER YOU MUST GO!

AND NOW THE BAT SWINGERS UNION HAS GIVEN HIM THE "GATE"!



G. U. BASKET BALL MATERIAL NOT UP TO USUAL STANDARD

BY H. C. BYRD.

Georgetown's basket ball team is not likely to be as strong this season as in recent years. The Hilltoppers lack the material out of which to build as formidable a combination as they have turned out for the last three winters, and to make the problem even more difficult, Sam Foley, star guard, will leave school after the holidays.

After the holidays there will be only two men from the team of last season on the squad—Capt. Kelley, guard, and Torrey, center. Curry, Dinn, Flanagan, Corcoran and Connolly are new men who are being depended upon to fill vacancies, and it is questionable if these measures up to the standard of those lost. With the exception of Corcoran, all are light and do not appear to be exceptionally fast. Dinn comes to Georgetown with the reputation of having been one of the best scholastic forwards in the New England states while a member of the Williston Academy quit, and owing to a lack of condition, probably did not do himself justice last night.

The loss of Sam Foley will be almost

impossible to make up. Certainly there is no guard at Georgetown anywhere near capable of filling his shoes. For the last three years Foley has been one of the greatest guards in the south, having had few equals and possibly no superiors. Once or twice Foley has slipped in his playing, but in the majority of cases, especially in the big games, his work has been as brilliant as that of any guard developed in this section in a mighty long while.

Foley has been taking post-graduate work in the Georgetown Law School this fall, but will discontinue that in order to spend a year as clerk in a law office in New York that he may be eligible for the bar of that city. Georgetown athletics will lose one of the hardest workers and one of the most efficient players they have had in a long while in Foley, who has proved popular with his fellows and is one of the most capable men in foot ball and basket ball the school has had in years. A lack of weight probably prevented him being one of the few really great foot ball players the south has turned out.

It looked for a while last night as if Georgetown were going to have a hard time winning from Mount St. Joseph, but it got going better as the contest progressed, and finally obtained a good enough lead almost to insure it the contest before the end of the first half.

Mount St. Joseph's spurt at the start was not of the kind to last, as its goals were hardly the result of well executed plays.

Georgetown's team lacked the cohesiveness it will get later in the year. The passing was fair, though the handling of the ball was only mediocre. As a whole, the game was not of a very high standard, an almost continuous succession of fouls marring it considerably, and the general play showing a lack of real practice on the part of both quints.

Letters were awarded to the Central High School foot ball team last night. Those who received the insignia were Capt. C. Richards, Capt.-elect Ochstadt, J. Richards, Elliott, MacDonald, Belcher, Wirt, White, Atherton, Saxon, Roberts, Hill, McKinney, Stokes, Hollingsworth, Wilkerson and Manager Stokes.

Brief addresses were made by Principal Wilson and Coach Thomas.

Twenty-two men are to compete in the five-mile run to be held by the Carroll Institute Saturday afternoon. Seven members of the Baltimore Cross Country Club have sent in their entry.

Of the line-up of the team that will compete unattached. These are the Carroll Institute men who will take part: Williams, Dillon, Dougherty, Doran, Schmidt, Bloomer, Adams, Covert and Healy. The Baltimore men are

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BOSTON, December 10.—Heinie Wagner, Red Sox shortstop, will endeavor to come back next spring. He already has made arrangements to go to Hot Springs early in February and boil out his arm. Wagner developed water on the elbow last spring and was unable to play.

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WHY HE TOLD US HE WAS FREE—SEE HIS AFFIDAVIT AND—ETC.

I WANNA JUMP BACK!

WHERE I'VE GET THAT STUFF!

TAKE MUH BACK MUGGY! THEY KIDNAPPED ME—HONEST!

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